



LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV HEALTH SERVICES

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While not required of meeting participants, signing-in constitutes public notice of attendance. Presence at meetings is recorded solely based on sign-in sheets, and not signing-in constitutes absence for Commission members. Only members of the Commission on HIV Health Services are accorded voting privileges, thus Commissioners who have not signed in cannot vote. Sign-in sheets are available upon request.

COMMISSION ON HIV HEALTH SERVICES MEETING MINUTES March 10, 2005

Approved
4/14/05

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	PUBLIC (cont.)	HIV EPI AND OAPP STAFF
Al Ballesteros, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Nettie DeAugustine, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Mario Chavez	Kyle Baker
Ruben Acosta	Adrian Aguilar	Melton Collins	Rochelle Floyd
Carla Bailey	Carrie Broadus	Deborah Cuatro	Wendy Garland
Anthony Braswell	John Caranto	Alicia Crews-Rhoden	Patty Gibson
Robert Butler	Ruth Davis	Terry Goddard	Ray Johnson
Charles Carter	Nancy Eugenio	Elizabeth Gomez	Jan King
Richard Eastman	Gunther Freehill	Jeffrey Goodman	Vicky Nagata
Whitney Engeran	William Fuentes	Miki Jackson	William Strain
Hugo Farias	Alexander Gonzales	Brad Leathers	Diana Vasquez
John Griggs	Chuck Henry	Kevin Lewis	Amy Wohl
David Giugni	Rebecca Johnson-Heath	Sue McGinnis	Juhua Wu
Richard Hamilton	Marcy Kaplan	Davyd McCoy	
Wilbert Jordan	Anna Long	Ruel Nollado	
Brad Land/Dean Page	Elizabeth Marte	Quentin O'Brien	
Michael Lewis	Vicky Ortega	Everado Orozco	COMMISSION STAFF/ CONSULTANTS
Andrew Ma	Chris Perry	Carlos Peralta	
Elizabeth Mendia	Alexis Rivera	Rick Platt	
Wendy Schwartz	Paul Scott	Jane Price	Gary Garcia
Kathy Watt	Fontaine Shockley	Mike Ralke	Marc Hauptert
Fariba Younai	Vanessa Talamantes	Andrew Signey	Jane Nachazel
		Jonathan Stockton	Glenda Pinney
	PUBLIC	Gary Vrooman	Doris Reed
		Maggie Willis	Sherry Rolls
		Jan Wise	James Stewart
	Daisy Aguirre	Jocelyn Woodard	Craig Vincent-Jones
	Donna Brown	Patricia Woody	Nicole Werner

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- 5) Commission Membership Roster
- 6) Committee Assignment List
- 7) Commission Membership Tables
- 8) Commission Calendar (*March 2005 –June 2005*)
- 9) Commission Meeting Minutes: *February 10, 2005*
- 10) Presentation: Care Act Title I 15 by William Strain
- 11) Year 15 Title I Award Comparisons
- 12) Year 15 Title I Notice of Grant Award (NGA)
- 13) Memo to Health Deputies: Care Act Title I Year 15 Award *March 13, 2005*
- 14) Staying Alive Conference Materials, *January 24, 2005*
- 15) Press Release: LAC Year 15 Title I Award
- 16) Presentation: Young MSM of Color SPNS by Amy Wohl
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- 19) Finance: Memo to the Commission re: Year 16 Allocations, *March 8, 2005*
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- 22) Finance: Year 14 Planning Council Expenditures
- 23) Finance: Memo to Zev Yaroslavsky re: Van Transportation Services Funding, *February 15, 2005*
- 24) Priorities and Planning: Priority- and Allocation-Setting Directives, *February 2, 2005*
- 25) Public Policy: HIV Testing: SB 945, *February 22, 2005*
- 26) Public Policy: Motion to Oppose SB 235, *March 1, 2005*
- 27) Public Policy: SB 235 – Proposed Legislation, *February 15, 2005*
- 28) Public Policy: Motion to Implement SB 1159 2004, *February 23, 2005*
- 29) Public Policy: SB 1159 2004 – Proposed Legislation, *September 20, 2004*
- 30) Memo to Governor Schwarzenegger re: State Budget, *March 8, 2005*
- 31) R,D&B: Supervisorial Office Briefing Policy and Procedure

I. CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Ballesteros called the meeting to order at 10:02 am. Roll was called. He welcomed and invited the potential Commissioner candidates to introduce themselves as well.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Vincent-Jones asked that item IIIA be postponed.
MOTION #1: Approved as amended (*Passed by Consensus*).

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

A. Annual Meeting, November 15-16, 2005: This item was postponed
MOTION #2: Postponed.

B. February 10, 2005: Mr. Land asked that the minutes be advised to include his conversation with Mr. Henry about the possibility of expanding Casewatch to other, non-CARE Act-funded providers, under “Commissioner Comments”.
MOTION #3: Approved as amended (*Passed by Consensus*).

IV. PARLIAMENTARIAN REMARKS: Mr. Stewart had no report.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT, NON-AGENDIZED: Mr. Ralke, President of Rainbow Bridge Community Services, introduced his agency as a new substance abuse provider funded through the most recent RFP. The agency provides addiction services for individuals with HIV or at-risk for HIV, specifically for those with methamphetamine problems. Mr. Leathers, Executive Director of the same agency, noted his 25 years of experience in the field of chemical dependency, and expressed appreciation for the contract.

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VI. CO-CHAIRS' REPORT: There was no Executive Committee meeting in February; therefore, there was no report. Mr. Land asked the Executive Committee to consider establishing a Personnel Committee to assist and guide personal issues.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Mr. Vincent-Jones introduced Ms. Pinney as their new Planning Manager. Her experience and background were detailed in a memorandum sent to the Commission the prior month.
- Mr. Vincent-Jones noted documents in the packet that compared the Title I Awards this year to all 51 EMAs from Year 13 through Year 15. The second matrix estimated the rankings, using a formula used for two years. This matrix also shows all of the changes of awards, and to what part of the awards, by EMA.
- Mr. Vincent-Jones reported that Jo Messoré, the Title I Project Officer for Los Angeles County, had been promoted at the Division of Service Systems (DSS)/HIV/AIDS Bureau (HAB) and Lorenzo Taylor will replace her as the Project Officer for LA County. Mr. Taylor was going to be on the West Coast on Monday, April 4, 2005, and would attend the Executive Committee meeting. Msrs. Ballesteros and Land suggested the Commission sending a letter thanking her for her many years of support, and arranging for a scroll to be presented from the Board of Supervisors to her. They also recommended a welcome letter be sent to Mr. Taylor.

VIII. STATE OFFICE OF AIDS (OA) REPORT: There was no report.

IX. OFFICE OF AIDS PROGRAMS AND POLICY (OAPP) REPORT:

- A. Year 15 Title I Award:** Mr. Johnson explained that the Year 15 Title I application earned an increase of \$189,968. Los Angeles County ranked #2 in the country. He thanked members of the OAPP staff and the Commission for their partnership in creating the successful application.
- Mr. Strain began his presentation on the Year 15 Title I Award by explaining that it comprises three components:
 - 1) Formula Award is calculated using estimated living AIDS cases over a 10-year band;
 - 2) Supplemental Award is comprised of severe need, conditions of award and other parts of the application;
 - 3) Minority Aids Initiative (MAI) uses living AIDS cases among populations of color.
 - In Year 14, he continued, there was the first-ever decrease in total available Title I funding—a little more than \$2 million. In Year 15, there was another decrease. He summarized the success of this year's application, noting that it scored very well in a difficult and competitive environment, in the face of shrinking funds and a changing epidemic.
 - Mr. Engeran acknowledged and thanked OAPP for their good work and effort. Mr. Ballesteros suggested that a letter be sent to Mr. Henry and staff expressing the Commission's appreciation for the application and effort, and copying DHS leadership and the Health Deputies.

X. HIV EPIDEMIOLOGY PROGRAM REPORT:

- A. Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS) Project: Young MSM of Color:** Dr. Wohl announced that HIV Epi has copies of the new Epi profiles available. She started her presentation by explaining the current SPNS collaboration, funded by HRSA, however the Board must still accept the grant funds. The project entails the evaluation of outreach, care and prevention efforts to engage HIV-seropositive young men of color who have sex with men, constituting an innovative adaptation of outreach and case management services to bring previously undiagnosed HIV-infected young men of color into care. She acknowledged the multi-disciplinary project team from OAPP, HIV Epi and the participating clinics.

XI. PREVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT: Ms. Mendia reported that the PPC Committee met on March 3, 2005, and there were three presentations: Dr. Frye from HIV Epi giving an update, Dr. Wahl on the SPNS Project, and a discussion as part of the research colloquia on the DVD-based virtual sex project conducted at USC. She also reported that they had updated the membership application, and are still recruiting for the PPC. She concluded by saying that there was a discussion on methamphetamines use and how to provide training for providers on substance abuse and HIV.

XIII. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Standards of Care (SOC) Committee:

1. **Revised Perinatal Standards of Care:** Dr. Younai reminded the body that there are currently HIV prenatal care standards, and they are proposing the revisions to incorporate rapid testing as part of routine prenatal testing.

MOTION #4: Approved (*Passed by Consensus*).

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2. **Standards Development Process:** Dr. Younai reviewed the proposed process, in which an existing and a new standard were being addressed every month by expert review panels. The standards are drafted every month by Phil Meyer and Dr. Kathleen Clanon facilitates the panels. When the draft standards are presented to the Commission, they will be open for public comment for three weeks. She reported that mental health, psychological and psychosocial had already been drafted and reviewed, and oral health and language services would be the next standards.

B. Finance Committee:

1. **Year 13 Assessment of Administrative Mechanism:** Mr. Hauptert reported that there were only slight language clarifications and minor corrections resulting from public comment. Mr. Vincent-Jones pointed out that the Commission could approve, accept or reject the final report.
MOTION #5: Approved (*Passed by Consensus*).
2. **Year 16 Allocation-Setting:**
 - Ms. Bailey forwarded the Finance Committee's allocation recommendations in four funding scenarios (increase, flat funding, decrease up to 5%, decrease of 5% or more). They comprised moving psychiatric services into the primary health care core, making the appropriate allocation adjustments, and continuing allocations at current levels in the first three funding scenarios. In the fourth scenario, the decrease would be spread across all categories, after program and planning council support are reviewed, up to 7.5%; after which service category allocations would be eliminated beginning with the lowest ranked. The Year 16 allocations would begin March 2006.
 - Mr. Hamilton asked the Priorities and Planning (P&P) Committee to review their decision to eliminate the allocation for food vouchers, as he continues to hear that the food pantry services are not adequate in SPA 6. Mr. Land suggested that it be sent to the SOC Committee instead, because they are reviewing service categories and setting service standards currently. Mr. Stewart clarified that since it is a request from a fellow Commissioner, no formal action needs to be taken, it does not affect the vote, and the resulting action does not have to be determined. Mr. Vincent-Jones added that the food delivery service category is scheduled for standards of care review in April 2005, and that the discussion of whether or not to use part of the allocation for vouchers wouldn't affect the final allocation decision.
 - Mr. Griggs asked for clarification about the hospice figures: Originally, the data said there were five clients, but the most recent figures indicate that there were 99 clients. Ms. Vasquez responded that the original five were those who it was believed were receiving hospice services, while the "99" figure represents all clients in the one funded hospice facility who were receiving hospice, skilled nursing and START program services. She added that the data has not been clear which clients and services are hospice versus other services, and what sources of funding are and can be billed for what clients.
 - In order to satisfy conflict-of-interest guidelines, Mr. Stewart asked that anyone who is affiliated with an agency that receives CARE Act funding identify themselves and the funded services:
 - ⇒ Elizabeth Mencia: case management, psychosocial; mental health
 - ⇒ Whitney Engeran: case management, psychosocial; residential care
 - ⇒ Kathy Watt: substance abuse
 - ⇒ Al Ballesteros: case management; residential
 - ⇒ Richard Hamilton: treatment adherence; case management; transportation
 - ⇒ Mike Lewis: case management
 - ⇒ Ruben Acosta: substance abuse
 - ⇒ Hugo Farias: case management; treatment adherence; mental health**MOTION #6:** Approved (*Passed Unanimously*).
3. **Year 14 Financial Reports:** Mr. Ma reported that the Year 14 Title I Award was \$36,644,000, showing currently a remaining balance of \$12,274,000 which it is expected will be fully expended. The Year 14 Title II Award was \$3,283,000, showing currently a remaining balance of \$1,166,000 which it is expected will be fully expended. Mr. Engeran asked for a report describing the movement of funds: category to category, where they shifted.
4. **Year 14 Planning Council Expenditures:** Mr. Vincent-Jones reported that a budget modification request has been submitted to OAPP to make some budget adjustments noted in the report. He reported the expectation that the budget would be fully expended this year.

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C. Priorities and Planning Committee:

1. *Priority- and Allocation-Setting Directives:*

- Mr. Land referred to communications in the packet regarding referral services, cultural competency, client advocacy, translation/interpretation services, oral health, substance abuse transitional housing, hospice, and medical outpatient.
- Mr. Vincent-Jones congratulated everyone for accomplishing the third priority- and allocation-setting processes since May 2004. He also acknowledged OAPP for providing data, updating the data, and providing the information as requested.
- Mr. Acosta asked about treatment advocacy, remembering that when treatment advocacy programs were implemented years ago, APLA provided trainings—which is no longer available. Ms. Vasquez responded that the State is now providing the trainings and sharing the same information, which they have started again after previously discontinuing them.

MOTION #7: Approved (*Passed by Consensus*).

D. Public Policy Committee:

1. **HIV Testing: SB 945:** Mr. Engeran reported that SB 945 had been introduced. The proposed legislation is the realization of the Commission's and Board of Supervisors' name-based HIV reporting policy. The current language is "spot" language and will be amended by the end of the month.

2. *HIV Exposure/Penalties: SB 235:*

- Mr. Engeran reported that the Public Policy Committee had unanimously concluded to oppose SB 235, a bill by Senator Denham, relaxing the standards of intention used to convict someone knowingly infecting others with HIV, and increasing the criminalization penalties. Mr. Engeran reminded everyone that legislation is currently in place that allows for—if the standard of specific intent is met—for the prosecution and incarcerations of someone who knowingly exposes someone to HIV. Ms. Schwartz noted that many believe this type of law would negatively impact disclosure and testing rates. Ms. Watt recommended further presentations, noting that there is research documenting intent in these types of cases. Mr. Griggs suggested that rehabilitation, rather than incarceration, is the answer.
- Mr. Jordan and others were supportive of the legislation noting that failure to disclose one's status is a particular problem for women of color, who are regularly infected by partners on the "down low" and who fail to reveal their risky sexual behavior to their partners.
- Mr. Braswell cautioned the Committee to recognize the gravity of this issue, and that, in addition, to generating written communications opposing the legislation, there should be constructive attempts by the Commission to strengthen the language and respond to the issues raised by Dr. Jordan and others.

MOTION #8: Approved (*Passed 16-3-1*).

3. **Needles/Syringes: SB 1159 2004:** Ms. Schwartz explained that the bill had already been passed in 2004 and signed by Governor Schwarzenegger. The law allows cities and counties to authorize limited sales of syringes without a prescription from specific authorized pharmacies. Locally, the city or county must authorize implementation of the program. She asserted that it is a critical measure in the effort to prevent transmission of HIV and hepatitis C among injection drug users (IDUs). She added that a similar program was successfully implemented in New York, and that California will be the 46th State to authorize non-prescription sales of syringes.

MOTION #9: Approved (*Passed by Consensus*).

4. **Reauthorization:** Ms. Schwartz commented that they are some issues with the memo detailing the Commission's Reauthorization policy, namely about how to implement it internally in the County.
5. **Medi-Cal Redesign:** Ms. Schwartz noted that a working group would meet following the Commission meeting to organize a public hearing about the impact of the Governor's proposed Medi-Cal redesign on HIV services and people with HIV.
6. **Miscellaneous:** Mr. Engeran announced that the AB 1167 (Condoms in Prisons), by Paul Koretz, would be discussed and addressed at the Public Policy meeting the following Friday.

E. Recruitment, Diversity and Bylaws Committee:

1. **Supervisory Office Briefing Policy and Procedure:** Mr. Butler reported that RD&B had codified a policy and procedure for developing Supervisory Office Briefings, as requested by the Public Policy Committee.

MOTION #10: Approved (*Passed Unanimously*).

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XIV. COMMISSION COMMENT, NON-AGENDIZED: There were no additional Commission comments.

XV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Mr. Griggs announced the dedication of the new state-of-the-art dental van at the High Desert Hospital on March 25.
- Mr. Butler reminded everyone of the third new members training following the Commission meeting.
- Mr. Giugni announced that the City of West Hollywood is hosting their second townhall forum on crystal meth use on March 23 at the West Hollywood Park Auditorium from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Mr. Vincent-Jones reminded everyone that HIV Epi had requested an evaluation of their earlier presentation, and asked people to complete the distributed evaluation form, and turn it into Juhua or Jane.
- Mr. Nollado noted that AIDS Watch was scheduled for May 2-5, 2005, and that SHAC is offering a limited number of partial scholarships for \$250 each.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 12:45.

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MOTION AND VOTING SUMMARY		
MOTION #1: Approve the Agenda Order.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	MOTION PASSED
MOTION #2: Approve the minutes from the November 15-16 2004 Commission on HIV Health Services Annual meeting.	<i>Postponed</i>	MOTION POSTPONED
MOTION #3: Approve the minutes from the February 10, 2005 Commission on HIV Health Services meeting, as amended.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	MOTION PASSED
MOTION #4: Adopt the proposed revisions to the perinatal standards of care.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	MOTION PASSED
MOTION #5: Accept the Year 13 Assessment of the Administrative Mechanism, and implement recommendations as detailed.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	MOTION PASSED
MOTION #6: Adopt the proposed allocations determined for Year 16 in four different funding scenarios.	<i>Aye: Acosta, Bailey, Ballesteros, Braswell, Butler, Carter, Eastman, Engeran, Farias, Giugni, Griggs, Jordan, Land, Lewis, Ma, Mendia, Schwartz, Hamilton, Watt, Younai</i> <i>No: None</i> <i>Abstention: None</i>	MOTION PASSED Ayes: 20 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0
MOTION #7: Adopt the proposed directives resulting from the Year 16 Priority- and Allocation-Setting process, as presented.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	MOTION PASSED
MOTION #8: Oppose SB 235 proposed in the current State Senate legislative session, and communicate that action to the appropriate sources, as detailed.	<i>Aye: Acosta, Bailey, Braswell, Butler, Carter, Eastman, Engeran, Farias, Giugni, Griggs, Land, Lewis, Ma, Schwartz, Hamilton, Watt</i> <i>No: Jordan, Mendia, Younai</i> <i>Abstention: Ballesteros</i>	MOTION PASSED Ayes: 16 Opposed: 3 Abstentions: 1
MOTION #9: Endorse the implementation of SB 1159, and ask LAC Board of Supervisors to authorize implementation in the County, as detailed.	<i>Passed by Consensus</i>	MOTION PASSED
MOTION #10: Approve the proposed policy and procedure for Supervisorial Office briefings, as detailed.	<i>Aye: Acosta, Bailey, Ballesteros, Braswell, Butler, Carter, Eastman, Engeran, Farias, Giugni, Griggs, Jordan, Land, Lewis, Ma, Mendia, Schwartz, Hamilton, Watt, Younai</i> <i>No: None</i> <i>Abstention: None</i>	MOTION PASSED Ayes: 20 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 0